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Federal grant supports library service in Missouri

Beverly Sheppard, acting director of the Institute of Museum and Library Services, made grants totaling \$148,939,000 to library agencies in the 50 states, the District of Columbia, and the U.S. territories. These funds are awarded through the Library Services and Technology Act and will be administered by the State Library Administrative Agencies. Grants are awarded according to a population-based formula, and Missouri will receive \$2,902,423.

These grants promote access to learning and information resources in all types of libraries. These federal grants advance two primary goals: to provide technology and support for networking and resource sharing, and to provide service to people in rural and urban areas who have difficulty using a library, with a special emphasis on children in poverty.

The Missouri State Library uses LSTA funds to support programs such as the following:

Surfing II: Senior citizens in El Dorado Springs are becoming skilled surfers. The El Dorado Springs High School library has responded to seniors' requests for computer training by sponsoring regular classes on basic computer skills. The school has computers and experienced trainers. Every class is filled, and new calls come in each week from adults who want to become computer literate. The classes have been fun and educational for both trainers and trainees.

Connecting the St. Louis Metropolitan Area to Community Connection: Community Connection is a Web-based database designed to make community information about human resources easily available to people. Similar efforts have met with great

success in Kansas City, Columbia, and other Missouri cities. Now St. Louis community service providers can make information about their resources more readily available to the people of St. Louis.

Making Historical Missouri Newspapers Available on the World Wide Web: The project participants tested the feasibility of digitizing historical Missouri newspapers, making them available on the Web, and applying various indexing methods to provide access to the contents. Levels of indexing included:

individual issue, keywords of headlines, keywords of the full text of the item, and keyword index of all words in the headline and first paragraph.

Family Time: The Hannibal Free Public Library partnered with Head Start for a project to serve economically disadvantaged families.

The program introduced Head Start parents and their children to the library through monthly informational and entertainment programs. Informational programs included reading readiness activities, social skills, dental care, health, fire safety, and nutrition, while magicians, puppet shows, clowns, storytellers, and ventriloquists provided entertainment programs.

Project SKILLS: This project serves voluntary transfer students and their families who live in St. Louis city but who attend Rockwood School District schools. Project partners include St. Louis Public Library and 12 St. Louis churches. LSTA funds pay for tutors and equipment for 12 tutoring sites, which are open from 6-9 PM four nights a week, and three hours each Saturday during the school year. In several locations, additional nights have been added to accommodate a greater number of students.



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Matt Blunt
Secretary of State

Sara Parker
State Librarian

Madeline Matson
Editor

Rob Davis
Director, Publications Division

Michael Douglas-Llyr
Graphic Designer



Check out **newsline online** (ISSN 1088-7237) at <http://www.sos.mo.gov/library/newsline/newsline.asp>

Five Missouri libraries receive automation grants

The Office of the Secretary of State has approved Public Library Automation Grant awards totaling \$304,945 to be made to the following libraries:



Cedar County Library—for retrospective conversion of library records: \$11,565



Kansas City Public Library—for an upgrade to a library automation system: \$127,097



Mexico-Audrain County Library—for an upgrade to a library automation system: \$118,271



Mountain View Public Library—for a new library automation system: \$16,591



Springfield-Greene County Library—for an upgrade to a library automation system: \$31,421

The grants to Cedar County Library and Mountain View Public Library are important steps forward in bringing automated library services to rural Missourians. The grant to Mexico-Audrain County Library helps complete the migration to a new state-of-the-art system. The grants to Kansas City Public Library and Springfield-Greene County Library allow these two important municipal library consortia to reach more library patrons and provide faster and more reliable automated services.

The next deadline for automation grant applications will be April 18, 2001.

Wolfner Library inaugurates new services

Patrons of Wolfner Library now have access to two new services: a Missouri Web-Braille page and an online distribution list for its users.

Wolfner Library is the first regional library for the blind and physically handicapped to develop a Web-Braille page. This website, based on the National Library Service Web-Braille page, houses files in the

.brf format that would be of interest to braille readers. All categories are Missouri-themed and include sports, events and festivals, literature, and magazines.

Richard Smith, Wolfner Library director, said that while local materials are posted at the site, the information will be of interest to other braille readers. "In particular, we hope the events and festivals page will be of interest to braille-reading travelers who might visit Missouri or braille readers who want a sampling of Missouri literature. We hope the information will have regional, national, and international interest."

Wolfner Library's distribution list offers information about the library's policies and procedures, relates items of interest to the blind and physically handicapped community, announces staff and administration changes, forwards National Library Service information, and suggests reading materials.

Recent postings on the list include an online course titled "Adaptive Computing for Persons with Disabilities," Women of Mystery Recommended Reading List, the latest issue of *Wolfner News*, and new descriptive videos purchased by the library.

Secretary Blunt announces opening of grant program

Secretary of State Matt Blunt has announced the opening of the Missouri Historical Records Grant Program with four "How to Apply" workshops scheduled for March in Springfield, Kansas City, St. Louis, and Jefferson City. Participants will learn how to submit competitive applications and successfully administer grants.

The Missouri Historical Records Grant Program was recently created through a \$300,000 legislative appropriation from the State of Missouri and a \$300,000 matching grant from the National Historical Publications and Records Commission (NHPRC). This is the largest award of its kind ever made by the NHPRC, and Missouri was one of only seven states to receive such funding this year. The program will be administered through the Secretary of State's

Office by the Missouri State Archives, and applications will be reviewed and awarded by the Missouri Historical Records Advisory Board.

Grants will be given to support the training and professional development of staff and volunteers; increased access to records; acquisition of preservation supplies, services, and equipment; and strategic planning and consultation with professionals. Eligible institutions include historic, ethnic, and religious societies, museums, libraries, and colleges or universities with records of historic value that are open to the public.

Secretary Blunt stressed the importance of the pre-application workshops: "These workshops will be very important in getting the program off the ground—educating the many historical societies and small museums around the state about the significant funding available to help care for the records that document Missouri's history."

Prospective applicants unable to attend the workshops may request an application packet after March 1, 2001. The first application deadline is June 30, 2001.

For more information, contact Kevin Edwards at 573-751-2403 or by e-mail at GrantProgram@sosmail.state.mo.us.

Missouri's teen reading program wins kudos

"The best teen summer reading manual I've seen...and among the best publications of any type on basic young adult services in public libraries."



High praise in a letter to Nancee Dahms-Stinson, the State Library's youth and seniors consultant from Carol H. Baughman, children's and youth services consultant at the Kentucky Department for Libraries & Archives. Baughman asked for permission to reprint *Book Your Summer: Missouri Teen Summer Reading Program Planning Manual* for distribution to all public libraries in Kentucky. She

wanted Kentucky librarians to understand "what is happening in our neighboring state" and to use the Missouri manual to "raise their expectations for their own programs while giving them some solid information and assistance." Her letter concludes with the following:

"I know you, the Missouri State Library, and your committee of librarians are proud of Book Your Summer. In the future, I hope you will be able to look at new and improved YA programs in Kentucky libraries and know that all of you had a part in helping us serve teens. Thank you for sharing your professional expertise and creativity."

Census shows 9.3% increase in Missouri's population

The Census Bureau has released population totals for the states from Census 2000. Missouri's total resident population as of April 1, 2000, was 5,595,211. This represents a 9.3 percent increase (478,138 persons) since the 1990 census. Missouri's resident population in 1990 was 5,117,073.

Ryan Burson, Missouri state demographer, has noted that Missouri's growth in the 1990s places it in the top half of all U.S. states in terms of population increase and represents more growth than in any other decade between 1900 and 2000. The state increase is the result of sizable natural growth (births minus deaths), but also the result of migration gains not seen before in the 20th century.

The Census 2000 population total for the entire United States is 281,421,906. This represents a 13.2 percent increase (32,712,003 persons) since 1990. The total population of the United States in 1990 was 248,709,873.

Along with the release of state population figures, the Census Bureau released apportionment counts by state for the U.S. House of Representatives. Missouri's number of nine representatives will remain the same.

For other state population totals and apportionment information, visit the Census

(continued on page 4)



Embark.com

<http://www.embark.com>

A PC Magazine Editors' Choice, this "full-service" portal site reviews learning portals that allow people to pursue full-time or part-time educational goals. It is organized for first-time students, graduate students, online distance learners, and international students.

Fathom.com

<http://www.fathom.com>

Claims to be the first "interactive knowledge site for authenticated knowledge and expertise." This site was developed as a joint project of Columbia University, the London School of Economics and Political Science, The British Library, Cambridge University Press, the Smithsonian Institution's National Museum of Natural History, and the New York Public Library. It is targeted at the educated consumer and offers access to interviews, articles, lectures, and discussion forums led by experts and "thought leaders."

FunBrain.com

<http://www.funbrain.com/kidscenter.html>

Provides motivational and educational online math games for all students. Math Baseball, Fresh Baked Fractions, and What's the Point? are a few of the fun activities found on the site.



Video shows Truman ship commissioning

More than 20,000 people gathered from all over the U.S. to honor the 33rd president on July 25, 1998, when the USS Harry S. Truman was commissioned at the Norfolk, Virginia, shipyard.

For those who wanted to attend the celebration but could not, a one hour and 16-minute video records the commissioning ceremony. The video includes the speeches and two interviews prior to the ceremony, one with Captain Thomas G. Otterbein, the ship's captain, and the other with William P. Fricks, president and CEO of Newport News Shipbuilding.

The video is \$19.95 plus \$3.00 shipping/handling from Landmark Products Corp., 314 North 11th St., Blue Springs, MO 64015. For more information, check the Web at <http://www.landmarkproductscorp.com>

Bureau's website at: <http://www.census.gov> and click on "Census 2000 resident population and apportionment counts" at the top of the page.

ALA votes to challenge CIPA

The executive board of the American Library Association has voted to initiate legal action challenging the recently enacted Children's Internet Protection Act (CIPA), signed into law on December 21, 2000. The decision came after more than a week of intense discussion among leaders and members during the association's annual mid-winter meeting. The ALA contends the act is unconstitutional and creates an infringement of First Amendment protections.

The federal rider, which was attached to the Labor HHS Education Appropriations Bill (HR 4577), mandates libraries and schools install content filters on all computers that offer Internet access as a prerequisite to receiving federal grant funds. Unless stopped by a court injunction, the act will go into effect in mid-April 2001.

CIPA requires libraries and public schools, as conditions of universal service discounts, to adopt and enforce acceptable use ("Internet safety") policies accompanied by a "technology protection measure"—i.e., blocking software—that would block access to "visual depictions" that are "obscene" or "child pornography" to both adults and children, and "harmful to minors" during any use of a computer by a minor.

In addition, certification of meeting the requirements of the act also will be necessary as a condition for public or school libraries receiving funds available under LSTA or Title III of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 to purchase computers used to access the Internet, or to pay for direct costs associated with accessing the Internet.

The new law has raised many questions among librarians, educators, and local governing bodies, including the transfer of local decisions about library policies to the

federal government, the limitations of filtering software, and the impact of libraries on closing the digital divide. Even the Commission on Online Child Protection, the federal commission appointed to study child safety on the Internet, concluded filters are not effective in blocking all content that some may find objectionable, but they do block useful and constitutionally protected information.

Another rider to HR 4577 is the Neighborhood Children's Internet Protection Act, which requires libraries and public schools, as conditions of universal service discounts, to adopt and implement an Internet safety policy that addresses issues of access, safety and security of minors, unauthorized access by minors, unauthorized disclosure, use, and dissemination of personal information regarding minors, and measures to restrict minors' access to materials deemed "harmful."

Five million items online National Digital Library Program reaches goal

As the concluding event during its Bicentennial year (2000), the Library of Congress announced a gift to the nation of five million American historical items on its website. The National Digital Library Program's award-winning project, American Memory (www.loc.gov), has reached its goal of making these materials from the collections of the Library of Congress and other institutions freely available.



American Memory is one of the leading providers of high-quality, noncommercial content on the Internet. The site receives more than 18 million "hits" per month and is one of the federal government's most popular websites.

The more than 90 American Memory collections cover the breadth of U.S. history, from the nation's founding, the wars it has fought, the Great Depression, and the great inventors to baseball, the civil rights move-

ment, modern music and theater, the conservation movement, and photography. The papers of Presidents Washington, Jefferson, and Lincoln bring to life these men and their times. A century later, film brought a new dimension to the public's perception of the careers of presidents such as Theodore Roosevelt, the first U.S. president to have his life chronicled on a large scale by film (even though his predecessors Grover Cleveland and William McKinley were the first to be filmed).

The National Digital Library Program of

the Library of Congress began in 1994 with major private donations of \$13 million. This public-private partnership effort has received \$15 million in appropriations from the U.S. Congress and more than \$45 million in donations from the private sector.

The newest online project of the library is a website designed specifically for kids and families, called America's Library (www.americaslibrary.gov). The site, which is supported by a public service campaign of the Advertising Council, invites users to "Log on. Play Around. Learn Something."

Newbery, Caldecott, King, Printz award winners

Four awards honoring outstanding literature for young people were announced during the 2001 midwinter meeting of the American Library Association, held in Chicago.

Richard Peck is the winner of the 2001 John Newbery Medal for his book, *A Year Down Yonder*, a series of stories about small-town life experienced by a 15-year-old girl from Chicago during the Depression era.

David Small won the 2001 Randolph Caldecott Medal for his imaginative illustrations in *So You Want To Be President?*, written by Judith St. George.

Both winning books were published in 2000 by Penguin Putnam.

Jacqueline Woodson, author of *Miracle's Boys*, and Bryan Collier, illustrator for *Uptown*, earned 2001 Coretta Scott King awards. Woodson's book was published by G.P. Putnam's Sons, and Collier's book, by Henry Holt.

David Almond, author of *Kit's Wilderness*, received the Michael L. Printz Award for excellence in literature for young adults. His book was published by Delacorte Press. This award, first given in 2000, honors the late Michael L. Printz, a Topeka, Kansas, school librarian, known for discovering and promoting quality books for young adults.

Videos promote Missouri history

Missouri public libraries will soon receive "Finding Missouri: Our History and Heritage," a series of videotapes and a teacher's manual funded by the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education and the Historic Preservation Section of the Department of Natural Resources.

The videos are intended to supplement the teaching of Missouri in social studies classrooms, grades 4 to 7. Each averages 12 minutes, focuses on a single topic, and features documentary footage, primary sources, reenactments and interpretations

of historical events and people, as well as footage of historic sites, interviews with experts, and narrations designed to appeal to upper-elementary and middle-school students.

Among the topics covered are the state's original inhabitants, the state's geography and resources, progress toward statehood, Missouri during the Civil War, the growth of Missouri's cities, the World's Fair, and the state's resources.

Copies of the videos may also be obtained through Missouri's public broadcasting stations.



Bohley Scholarship available

The Ronald G. Bohley Scholarship Fund was created in 1992 to honor Ron Bohley, the late director of the University of Missouri-Rolla library who was known for his lifelong pursuit of interlibrary cooperation and exemplary professional standards.

The scholarship is awarded annually to an individual enrolled in, or recently accepted into, an ALA-accredited graduate program for an M.L.S. degree. It is given to individuals who have demonstrated high scholastic standards and the desire to provide quality service to library patrons. The current scholarship amount is \$750.

Selection is made by members of the Professionalism, Education, Employment and Recruitment (PEER) council of the Missouri Library Association. Applications will be accepted by June 1, and the MLA president will notify the scholarship winner by August 31.

Applications are available on the MLA website at



newsline welcomes information for "Missouri Library News" and "Personal Notes" from librarians, library trustees, and others interested in the state's libraries. Send news about library events, projects, awards, and personnel changes to the editor. (See page 2 for contact information.)

The literary collections in The New York Public Library expand at the rate of approximately 10,000 items per week, in dozens of languages.



At the time of his last grant issued in 1919, Andrew Carnegie had funded 1,750 public libraries.

Millions to Missouri libraries

Bequests and donations to libraries are common occurrences, but the last few months have seen some larger than usual gifts to Missouri public libraries.

💰 Springfield-Greene County Library received the largest donation in its history—\$1.3 million from the estate of Bert and Denise Buhrman. Dividends and interest from the endowment will generate an estimated \$40,000 for the library. The funds will be used for music-related purchases.

Bert Buhrman was well known in the Springfield area as the "Master of the Mighty Wurlitzer," a pipe organ he played at concerts. He lived in New York City for many years where he played live organ music behind commercials and early soap operas.

The Buhrmans donated their collection of sheet music—almost 6,000 American songs and Broadway show tunes from 1910 to 1950—to the library. The Bert Buhrman Sheet Music Collection is located in the Library Center, Springfield's main library, and an index to the collection is available on the library's website at <http://198.209.8.166/music/>.

💰 At a recent board meeting of the Carrollton Public Library, a local attorney read an amendment to a trust of Leslie C.H. "Boogie" Bridges that gives a half million dollars for a new library and another half million dollars for maintenance and improvement of the library. The attorney's reading was met with stunned silence from the overwhelmed board.

The bequest stipulates that the library be granted 501(c) (3) status by the Internal Revenue Service and the new library be located on the site of the old Florence Hotel and compatible in style with other buildings in downtown Carrollton.

💰 Another large bequest went to the Macon Public Library, which received \$791,000 from a former Macon resident, Allene Guthrie Van Meter.

Van Meter and her husband, William, died last year in New Mexico where they had lived since 1950. Both Van Meters left bequests to their hometown libraries. They believed libraries were important community resources and opened the doors to learning, especially for children growing up in small towns as they had both done.

Macon Public Library director Kathy Foley said the income from the bequest will be used to expand the library's collection.

💰 The board of trustees of Henry County Library have announced the library is the recipient of a gift of \$269,206 from the estate of Dr. and Mrs. Hugh Henry. The donation is to be used for the maintenance and operation of the library facility. To date, it has been used to revamp the Friends' meeting room and add more parking spaces. Future plans include better signage for the area and the addition of a children's service desk.

Library issues suffer election defeats

November 2000 election results: For the third time, voters in Howard County defeated a tax increase for the library. The county library is part of the Daniel Boone Regional Library. Also defeated was a proposal for a county-wide library district in Dent County. The proposal failed in all eight of the precincts and by almost 70 percent throughout the county. Residents of Dent County use the Salem Public Library but do not pay non-resident fees.

Webb City Public Library receives \$10,000 for computers & software

Funds remaining after the closing of the 35-year-old Webb City Health and Welfare Association have been donated for computers and educational software for young people at the Webb City Public Library. The association's board of directors provided \$10,000 to the library, and the library has purchased six computers, software, a color printer, and furniture.

The library will soon begin a campaign to

collect funds for improvement of the existing building and construction of an addition.

Honors for "Libraries Without Boundaries"

"Libraries Without Boundaries," a reciprocal lending agreement among 11 St. Louis libraries, was honored with a prestigious award from the East-West Gateway Coordinating Council at its 35th annual meeting, held on November 15, 2000. The library program was noted for "Outstanding Achievement in Local Government."

Accepting the award were Dr. Glen Holt, executive director of the St. Louis Public Library; Dan Wilson, director of the St. Louis County Library; Carl Sandstedt, director of the St. Charles City-County Library; and Terry Donnelly, director of the Maplewood Public Library, representing the Municipal Library Consortium.

"Libraries Without Boundaries" enables patrons to borrow materials from participating libraries without special fees. Before the agreement, patrons paid non-resident fees to borrow materials from libraries outside of their home districts.

The East-West Gateway Coordinating Council is the regional council of governments and metropolitan planning organization for the St. Louis region.

Dexter library receives award

The Keller Public Library of Dexter received the Employer of the Year Award from the Rehabilitation Services of the Blind on November 1, 2000. The library hired a young man, who is legally blind but has some sight and who helps the library staff train patrons on computers purchased with funds from an LSTA Basic Equipment Grant.

New funding for Wilson's Creek library

Two gifts to the Wilson's Creek National Battlefield Foundation will be used for the construction of an 8,000-square-foot research library and education facility at the

park.

The Southwestern Bell Foundation contributed \$50,000 and Springfield businesswoman Anne Drummond also contributed \$50,000. With these gifts, the foundation is within \$200,000 of raising the funds for the \$1.2 million project.

The John K. and Ruth L. Hulston Library will house the largest Civil War collection in the National Park Service. The collection currently numbers 4,500 volumes but is expected to double upon completion of the new library, which will be connected to the park's visitors center.

Construction of the library will begin next year.

St. Louis County Library becomes branch of Family History Library

St. Louis County Library has been named an authorized branch of the Family History Library in Salt Lake City. The county library is the first public library in Missouri to be so designated.

"When the Family History Library approached the St. Louis Genealogical Society (SLGS), the society referred them to St. Louis County Library where the SLGS collection is housed," said Joyce Loving, manager of special collections at the county library. "We were excited about the opportunity and pleased to be involved as we can offer more extensive hours and a large number of reference staff to assist the public."

County library patrons now have access to more than two million rolls of genealogical microfilm through an ordering system. Copies of the microfilm rolls are available through the Special Collections Department or through Family History Centers around the world. Patrons pay \$3.75 shipping and mailing to borrow a roll of film for a month.

The catalog can be searched on the Web at <http://www.familysearch.org/Search/searchcatalog.asp>.



Telemarketers—do not disturb

During the 2000 legislative session, the Missouri General Assembly enacted the No Call Law (S.B. 763), which prevents some telemarketers from calling state residents who sign up to be on a list maintained by the Attorney General. Consumers can register their home phone numbers by calling a toll-free number (866-662-2551) or by filing electronically on the Internet (<http://www.ago.state.mo.us/nocall>). There is no charge to register.

Telemarketers must purchase a copy of the No Call list, which will be available in an electronic format. The first list will be issued on June 1, 2001, and updates will be issued every three months. Telemarketers covered by the law must stop calling people on the list by July 1, or they will face civil penalties of up to \$5,000 for each knowing violation.

More than 100,000 consumers signed up during the first week the database opened (late December).

More Library News



Kansas City Public Library board votes to relocate downtown location

Following a public hearing on November 21, 2000, the Kansas City Public Library Board of Trustees received presentations from staff, legal, and financial counsel regarding a proposed plan for the Main Library to relocate to the historic First National Bank building at 10th & Baltimore in the heart of the city's downtown. The board authorized library director Dan Bradbury to finalize negotiations and execute a lease and develop-

ment agreement between the library and DCTI (a newly formed limited liability company of the Downtown Council).

The library anticipates a 24-month construction period, with occupancy slated for the first quarter of 2003.

Kirkwood Public Library establishes pet memorials

Patrons of Kirkwood Public Library have a unique opportunity to remember a beloved pet by making a donation to the library's Pet Memorial Fund. Donations to the fund will enable the library to purchase materials for animal lovers of all ages.

Books purchased through the fund will be marked with a special bookplate inscribed with the names of the pet, the pet owner, and the donor.

McDonald County Library selected for discussion series

The McDonald County Library is one of 30 libraries selected nationwide to participate in the pilot "Fast Forward: Science, Technology and the Communications Revolution" viewing, reading, and discussion series. The project is organized by National Video Resources (NVR) in partnership with the American Library Association and funded by the National Science Foundation and the Albert P. Sloan Foundation.

"Fast Forward" uses documentary films to involve the public in a study of the impact of science and technology in the 20th century. The project encourages participants to examine the hopes and anxieties associated with revolutions in movement, communications, and knowledge.

The programs will take place over the course of six weeks and will be led by local university scholars with expertise in the history of science and technology. Discussion themes will cover subjects such as television, radio, movies, the telephone, the computer, and the Internet.

Albany library offers chat room and Web cam

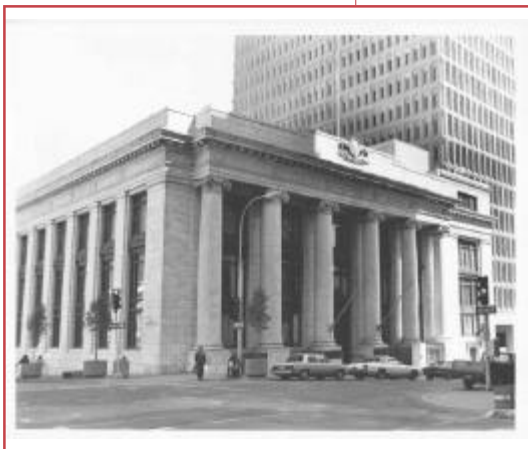
The Albany Carnegie Library has instituted two innovative services for patrons and Web browsers—rotating Webcams and a chat room.

In the chat room, library director Cheryl Noble answers questions from patrons through instant messaging on the Web. She expects increasing numbers of questions as residents become more familiar with the service. For a look at the site, go to <http://carnegie.lib.mo.us>.

The library has also installed three rotating Webcams which point to the front desk, the genealogy room, and the technology room. Noble calls the Web cams "community tools."

For example, students from the local elementary school can go to the lab and watch classes from their school who are visiting the library for programs. "We have people who come in and wave to family who are watching online," Noble said. She believes the library is effectively mixing old and new by preserving the historic library building while exploring the possibilities of new technology.


The City of Albany has a live camera set-up that shows the square and an arcade across the street. It is the city administration's attitude of using technology for open access. And the library is part of that access.





By 2003, Kansas City Public's main library will be housed in one of the city's historic downtown buildings

Check out the State Library's New Books page on the Internet for the recent acquisitions in library science. Books are available for a three-week loan to Missouri library staff. Go to <http://mosl.sos.state.mo.us/lib-ser/libref/newbooks/newbooks.html>.

Library building projects


 Final plans are in the works for a building to house the Liberal branch of the **Barton County Library**. Bub Curless, a Liberal businessman, pledged \$40,000 to get the project going. To date, the building fund has reached \$80,000 from donations from local residents and organizations. The project goal is \$104,000.

 An addition and renovation of the **New Madrid Memorial Library** is under way that will double the size of the current building. The renovation includes handicap-accessible facilities, new windows, lighting, roofing, and a temperature control system. The City of New Madrid purchased the land behind the library for the addition. Scheduled completion will be the first week of January 2001.

 **Bonne Terre Memorial Library** is constructing a 4,000 square-foot addition to its existing 3,000-square-foot building. The construction was made possible through a \$500,000 gift from Joyce and Howard Wood.

When the addition is complete, the new space will allow for a computer training area, a children's area, larger work spaces for library staff, and more room for the book collection.

Before the building plans were finalized, the library invited Marilyn Mason, library consultant and former director of the Cleveland Public Library to meet with local librarians to discuss library needs of the future as they related to Bonne Terre. Mason also met with the Library Building Committee to discuss the building design and to make recommendations about the existing building and future uses of the space.

 The Friends of Libraries for the University of Missouri-Columbia's **Ellis Library** have established a fundraising campaign for a project dubbed "Making a Grand Entrance." The project will involve a refurbishing of the library interior to include painting and wallpapering, new inside doors, carpeting, furniture, exhibit cases, and bookcases for new books.

 **Springfield-Greene County Library's Midtown Carnegie Branch** re-opened No-

vember 18, 2000, after several months of construction. The 95-year-old library has undergone a complete renovation including a new entrance opening into a Grand Lobby, new lighting, carpeting, and restrooms, improved accessibility to all departments, a combined information and circulation desk, glass-walled entrances to new teen and children's departments, an Ozarks forest theme in the children's department, and ceiling fans to preserve the early 20th century look of the library. The building was the first location of the Springfield Public Library.

Ferguson library's renovation includes outside sculpture

The unveiling of a sculpture depicting a young boy reading a book capped the Ferguson Municipal Library's exterior renovation project. The sculpture was created by Ferguson artist Bill Duncan, who donated the piece to the library. Titled "The World Within," the sculpture depicts a boy sitting cross-legged in front of a stack of books. It was bronzed with funds donated from the community.

The renovation involved a complete rebuilding of the parking lot and the installation of small garden plots, which are maintained by volunteers. All funds were raised or donated by local residents.

Young people in the Ferguson area consider the statue a good luck piece; for good grades, a tap on the statue's head is in order, according to library director Sandra Stewart.



Sculptor Bill Duncan and the wax copy of "The World Within" during the bronzing process.

2001 summer program manual in print and online

Missouri's "2001 Places to Go" summer reading program manual is available on the State Library website at http://www.sos.mo.gov/library/development/services/youth_srs.asp. As in previous years, the manual includes a wealth of material for summer library projects from booklists and activity ideas to family reading "connections" and games. You will need Adobe Acrobat Reader to view the manual, and a link is provided on the manual webpage to download Adobe Acrobat. Each chapter has been mounted as a separate PDF file.

A printed manual also has been mailed to Missouri public and branch libraries to accompany the graphic materials created by Joe Breeden of Independence.

National poetry contest

The St. Louis Poetry Center and *Pleiades: A Journal of New Writing* announce their 41st Annual Best Poem Contest, which awards a \$2,000 grand prize, judged this year by former U.S. poet laureate Robert Pinsky.

Submissions can include up to three unpublished poems, up to 60 lines per work. Entries must be postmarked by May 15, 2001. Enclose cover sheet with name, address, phone number and title (s), along with a \$15 entry fee, to: The St. Louis Poetry Center, National Contest, 567 North and South Rd., #8, St. Louis, MO 63130. Send an SASE (1 lb. book rate) to receive a copy of *Pleiades* in which the winning poem appears.

Missouri librarians learn design basics

One hundred and thirty people from libraries across the state signed up for the State Library's series of regional workshops devoted to basic design principles. Offered as part of the statewide library marketing campaign, the workshops were conducted by Megan O'Brien and Mary Burke of The Vandiver Group, a leading St. Louis marketing firm.

The presenters kept things lively by using film, lecture, discussion, and group project assignments. They covered a wide range of subject matter from color theory and type-face selection to working with clients and developing print and Web publications.

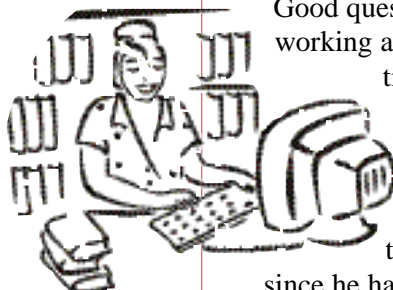
Evaluations of the workshop content and presenters were overwhelmingly positive.

Typical responses were: "Great ideas that made the creative juices flow." "I was reminded of the importance of design." "Loved the interactive exercises that clearly drove home ideas."

The workshops, held in late November and early December 2000, were hosted by Mid-Continent Public Library, St. Charles City-County Library, and Springfield-Greene County Library. They were funded through a grant from the Library Services and Technology Act.

"Why do I need a librarian? I have the Internet"

by Meg Sarff



Good question. The other day while working at the reference and information desk, I was approached by a man who wanted a fairly obscure piece of information.

I checked a few print sources then went on the Internet. He told me not to bother since he had spent several hours searching the Internet and had found nothing. Within a few seconds, I found exactly what he was looking for and he was astonished.

"How did you find that? I bet you just

guessed, eh?"

After he left the desk, I pondered what he had said. Did he really think I was that lucky that I could just guess where the answer would be found? I wanted to get up on my soapbox and shout: "NO, I didn't just get lucky! I'm a librarian!"

It's my job to find information. I'm an information specialist, and it can take a specialist to quickly track down information, whether it is in a printed format or online electronically.

The Internet is a powerful tool with millions of pieces of information and, although efforts are being made to make this information more easily accessible, the truth is that it may never be as easy to use as that old-fashioned collection of information, the library.

Librarians—specially trained information experts—have spent centuries helping the public find information. Nothing has really changed. The Internet, while in a new format, is just another collection of information that needs a competent, trained information professional to navigate its intricacies. The reference librarian at your local public library is that professional. Think of us the next time you need information; we librarians will be there for you.

Sarff is public services manager at the Davenport (Iowa) Public Library. Originally published in the Friends of Davenport Public Library Newsletter. Reprinted with permission.

"StoryLines America" expands to the Midwest

The American Library Association has received a \$245,000 grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities to present "StoryLines America: A Radio/Library Partnership Exploring Our Regional Literature" in the Midwest. Radio programs in the Midwest series will be broadcast in Fall 2001 on participating public radio stations in eight states: Missouri, Iowa, Illinois, Indiana, Minnesota, Michigan, Ohio, and Wisconsin.

The Midwest series is the third “StoryLines America” series to be funded by the NEH. Previous series took place in the Northwest and Southwest in 1997, and in California and the Southeast in 1999.

“StoryLines America” in the Midwest will feature 13 weekly, one-hour radio shows, each focusing on one outstanding example of literature from the region. Listeners will have an opportunity to talk to program hosts and guests in the studio by using a toll-free telephone number. Discus-

sion focuses on the history, literature, and culture of the region and the sense of place residents derive from living there. Books, discussion guides, and supplemental reading lists will be available from participating libraries. Tapes of all the radio programs will be available at the end of the series.

Participating radio stations and libraries for the Midwest “StoryLines America” series will be identified beginning in spring 2001.

2001-2002 Mark Twain Award Master List

Bauer, Joan	<i>Backwater</i>
Bridges, Ruby	<i>Through My Eyes</i>
Bunting, Eve	<i>Blackwater</i>
DeFelice, Cynthia	<i>Nowhere to Call Home</i>
Franklin, Kristine L.	<i>Dove Song</i>
Gorman, Carol	<i>Dork in Disguise</i>
Grove, Vicki	<i>The Starplace</i>
Hobbs, Will	<i>Jason's Gold</i>
Holland, Isabelle	<i>Paperboy</i>
Holm, Jennifer L.	<i>Our Only May Amelia</i>
Holt, Kimberly Willis	<i>When Zachary Beaver Came to Town</i>
Kehret, Peg	<i>I'm Not Who You Think I Am</i>
Kehret, Peg	<i>Shelter Dogs: Amazing Stories of Adopted Strays</i>
Levine, Gail Carson	<i>Dave at Night</i>
Mills, Claudia	<i>You're a Brave Man, Julius Zimmerman</i>
Patneau, David	<i>Framed in Fire</i>
Pinkney, Andrea Davis	<i>Silent Thunder</i>
Rosen, Sybil	<i>Speed of Light</i>
Tolan, Stephanie S.	<i>Ordinary Miracles</i>
Willner-Pardo, Gina	<i>Figuring Out Frances</i>

2001-2002 Show Me Reader Award Master List

Adler, David A.	<i>The Babe & I</i>
Cocca-Leffler, Maryann	<i>Mr. Tanen's Ties</i>
DiSalvo-Ryan, Dyanne	<i>A Dog Like Jack</i>
Harris, Jim	<i>The Three Little Dinosaurs</i>
Lester, Helen	<i>Hooway for Wodney Wat</i>
Polacco, Patricia	<i>Welcome Comfort</i>
Primavera, Elise	<i>Auntie Claus</i>
Silverman, Erica	<i>Raisel's Riddle</i>
Stevens, Janet, & Susan Stevens	<i>Cook-a-Doodle-Do</i>
Stewig, John Warren	<i>King Midas, A Golden Tale</i>

Upcoming Events



March 2
Read Across America Day

March 15-18
Association of College and
Research Libraries
National Conference
Denver

March 16
Freedom of Information Day

March 18-21
Children's Literature Festival
Warrensburg

March 27-28
GIS Conference
Columbia

April is National Poetry
Month

April 1-7
National Library Week

April 2
International Children's Book
Day

April 16-22
Young People's Poetry Week

April 22-24
Missouri Association of
School Librarians
Spring Conference
Osage Beach

May 1
National Library Legislative
Day
Washington, DC

❖
Rather than allow young children a view of the world through the safe windows of a book, the censors would send them out into that world ignorant of its ways and its wonders. Books allow children to sample life at arm's length, to reflect on it, put it in context, speed it up or slow it down without the passions and ambiguities of the moment pushing them toward error.

❖
Paul McMasters,
First Amendment
Ombudsman—
The Freedom Forum

Legislative Watch

The First Regular Session of the 91st General Assembly will be considering a number of bills affecting libraries and library operation, including appropriation requests for the State Library, Internet filters for libraries, property tax legislation, TIF and tax abatement legislation, library funding, the Hancock Amendment, and public libraries' status as political subdivisions. Legislation to watch includes:

HB 73—requires certain buildings to provide family restrooms.

HB 218—establishes Lifelong Learning Month and makes changes to law regarding student representatives on higher education boards

HB 237—requires a roll call on votes to close meetings; penalizes negligent violations of the Sunshine Law, and increases penalties for violations of the Sunshine Law.

HB 261—Creates a state income tax credit in an amount equal to one thousand dollars per child if such child reads at his/her current grade level or higher

HB 270—requires roll-call votes for all substantive issues at all public meetings

HB 351—promotes higher education community service learning programs

HB 352—promotes elementary and secondary community service learning programs

HB 407—regulates Internet access by minors in public schools and libraries

HB 434—increases the allowable popula-

tion for enterprise zones not within metropolitan statistical areas from 20,000 to 25,000 inhabitants.

SB 42—regulates Internet access for minors in public libraries and schools

SB 70—prohibits certain fraudulent use of the Internet

SB 72—concerns electronic storage of business and public records

SB 79—revises criteria used to evaluate redevelopment projects funded by tax increment financing in certain areas

SB 102—exempts certain political subdivisions from the state prevailing wage law

SB 109—increases immunity from liability for volunteers of non-profit organizations from simple to gross negligence

SB 154—relates to establishment of telecommunity centers at state colleges and universities

SB 190—relates to required documentation for the Internet service provided by telecommunications companies

SB 234—exempts certain interstate telecommunications services from sales tax



Missouri State Library
P.O. Box 387
Jefferson City, MO 65102-0387

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